GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4220
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005
CULTURAL POLICY
Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to formulate a comprehensive Cultural Policy to save the Cultural Heritage in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be formulated and announced?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE(SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (c) : No, Sir. The Government is not contemplating to formulate any formal policy document. However, the `Mission` of the Government includes protection and preservation of all protected monuments and all forms of cultural assets and heritage - both tangible and intangible. For the protection of cultural heritage sites and properties, necessary legislation already exists. The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 were enacted for the above purpose. A number of institutions such as the Archaeological Survey of India, National Archives of India, Anthropological Survey of India, Institutes of Buddhist and Tibetan Studies, various Museums and Libraries under the administrative control of the Government, Akademies - Sangeet Natak, Lalit Kala, and Sahitya - and National School of Drama have been constituted for this purpose. In addition, the Government is providing grants under various schemes to individuals and institutions including registered societies, trusts and Non-Governmental Organisations for achieving the above policy objectives.